

1 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 54**

2 (By Senators Snyder, Green, Browning, Foster, Klempa, Minard,
3 Palumbo, Williams, Yost, Boley and Sypolt)

4 [Originating in the Committee on Government Organization]

5
6
7 Requesting the Joint Committee on Government and Finance to study
8 the scope of practice of health care professions and the need
9 for the establishment of a commission to make independent
10 recommendations to the Legislature on scope of practice
11 issues.

12 Whereas, This Legislature is committed to availability, access
13 and affordability of patients to high quality health care services
14 by licensed health care professionals; and

15 Whereas, There is a demonstrated need to examine the scope of
16 practice expansion proposals that are proposed for legislative
17 consideration and those currently in statute; and

18 Whereas, The regulation of health care professions is designed
19 to protect the public and enhance patient access to competent
20 health care delivery services; and

21 Whereas, Health care is an evolving, dynamic system and
22 changes in the scope of practice are inherent in health care
23 delivery; and

1 Whereas, Scope of practice issues for health care delivery is
2 often a complex and contentious process; and

3 Whereas, Changes to the scope of practice should recognize the
4 established history of the practiced scope within health care
5 professions, a recognition of the education and training received
6 by a particular health care discipline, evidence supporting the
7 need for a change to the scope of practice and the appropriate
8 regulatory environment; and

9 Whereas, The interim study would provide an opportunity for a
10 professional licensure discussion by and between health care
11 regulatory boards, education and training institutions, citizens,
12 advocates, patients, health care professionals, and lawmakers; and

13 Whereas, The interim study would also allow the opportunity to
14 discuss any appropriate expansion of the scope of practice for
15 various health care boards or modification to current statutory
16 provisions; and

17 Whereas, The interim study would compare national minimum
18 requirements for health care professionals; and

19 Whereas, The interim study would examine educational
20 comparisons of health care professionals; and

21 Whereas, The interim study would address the didactic and
22 clinical training and continuing education of health professionals;
23 and

1 Whereas, The interim study would review the supervised
2 educational experience and practice for health care professionals;
3 and

4 Whereas, The interim study would evaluate the statutory and
5 regulatory requirements of health care professionals in other
6 states; therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

8 That the Joint Committee on Government and Finance is hereby
9 requested to study the scope of practice of health care professions
10 and the need for the establishment of a commission to make
11 independent recommendations to the Legislature on scope of practice
12 issues; and, be it

13 *Further Resolved,* That the Joint Committee on Government and
14 Finance report to the regular session of the Legislature, 2012, on
15 its findings, conclusions and recommendations, together with drafts
16 of any legislation necessary to effectuate its recommendations;
17 and, be it

18 *Further Resolved,* That the expenses necessary to conduct this
19 study, to prepare a report and to draft necessary legislation be
20 paid from legislative appropriations to the Joint Committee on
21 Government and Finance.